

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



16 - 18 SEPTEMBER 1964^{50X1}
~~TOP SECRET~~

18 September 1964

LATE ITEM

US - North Vietnam

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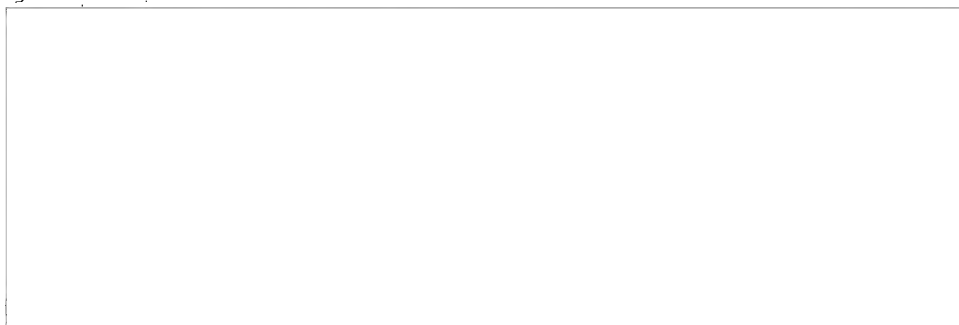
18 September 1964

1. USSR: Khrushchev, talking to a Japanese parliamentary delegation on 15 September, was initially quoted as claiming the USSR had a "monstrous new terrible weapon."

Khrushchev and the Japanese have subsequently corrected--but not as yet clarified--the reporting of his remarks. The implication now is that he is claiming for the USSR a "terrible weapon," not a nuclear bomb, and in the R and D stage.

This leaves the biological or--less likely--chemical warfare field. However, we know of no unique Soviet development in these or other weaponry fields.

Khrushchev promised a TASS release of his remarks. This could provide some clarification.



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the fact that Khrushchev made his statement in the midst of an anti-Chinese diatribe suggest to us that the announcement was a maneuver for tactical advantage in the Sino-Soviet dispute--possibly one designed to blunt the impact of some expected Chinese Communist claim for a nuclear capability.

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2. Communist China: Ambassador Dobrynin has told Ambassador Thompson that Moscow believes Communist China could explode its first nuclear device at any time.

Soviet concern over the impact of such an event may have motivated at least in part Khrushchev's several references this week to "monstrous" and "terrible" Soviet weapons.

We are not sure just how good Soviet information on the Chinese program is, but the Soviets themselves have suggested that since 1960 they have not been well informed. Prior to that time, of course, their knowledge was both detailed and up to date.



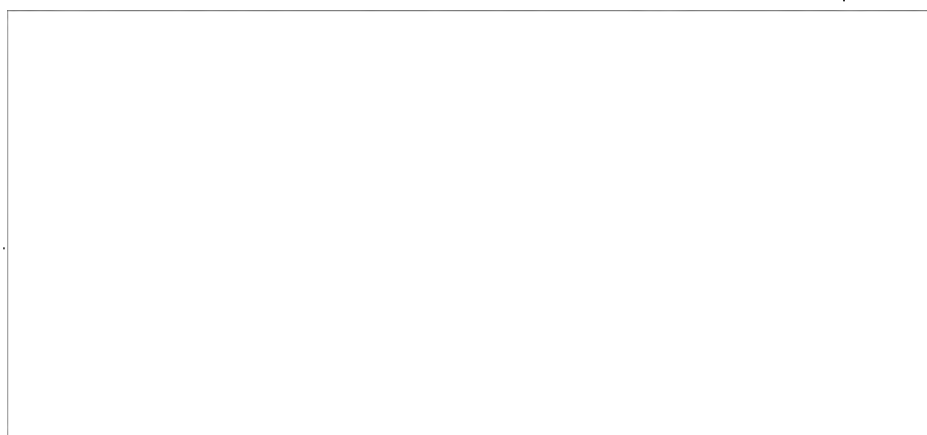
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3. Indonesia - Malaysia:



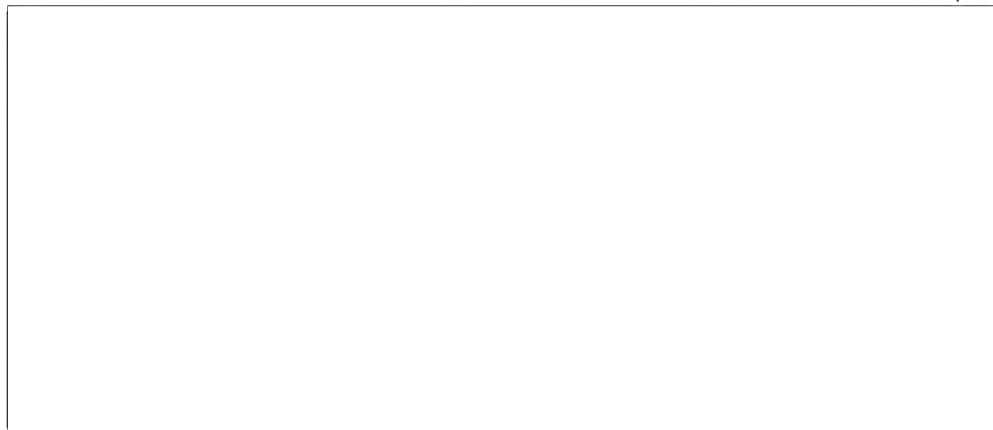
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On Thursday, Sukarno took off for his European visit. Before leaving, he told Ambassador Jones that he hopes for a peaceful settlement of the dispute and has no plans for military action, "unless the British start something."

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4. Cyprus: The Turks are still insisting on rotating their troops.

The Greek Cypriots maintain that Turkey no longer has the right to keep any troops at all on Cyprus, let alone rotate them. The showdown may come next week.

We have heard little lately from Makarios, who has been at the wedding in Athens. Before the archbishop left Cyprus, [redacted] he was still determined to go through with a military deal with the USSR. [redacted]

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The Turks, meanwhile, have told Athens that, as a wedding present to Constantine, they will renew the residence permits of the Istanbul Greeks, thus removing the threat of a general expulsion.

5. South Vietnam: Khanh is under growing pressure from the young generals who saved him from the coup.

General Xung, now commander of the Civil Guard, says Khanh has been given his "last chance." Xung is insisting that Khanh purge the army and install a civilian government by 1 November.

General Ky is backing Xung in his demands. He told the press Wednesday the younger generals will act if Khanh fails to make progress.

All this appears to have had some effect.

Khanh

[redacted] at first he intended to take no reprisals against the leaders of the coup attempt he has now decided to hold a "formal inquiry."

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Khanh admitted that junior and middle grade officers have become critical of their superiors and would resent whitewashing of those involved in the coup attempt. Five of the coup leaders have been arrested and probably face trial and possibly severe punishment.

6. Congo: Tshombé is in Nairobi for a meeting of the OAU's special committee on the Congo.

There is a good chance he may clash with radical members of the committee. The UAR, Ghana, and possibly Guinea and Somalia, may force his hand by demanding concessions to the Congolese rebels which he would find unacceptable.

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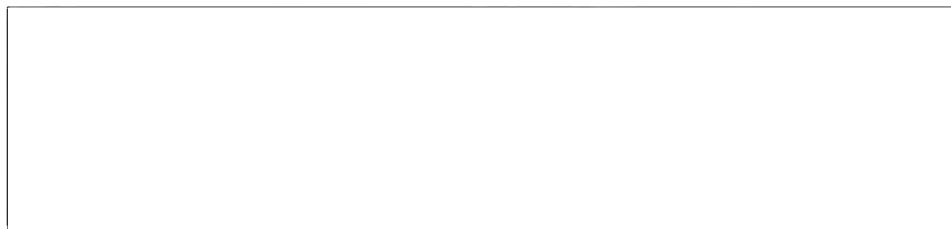
Government forces in the Congo still have the initiative. We continue to receive indications of confusion and slipping morale among the rebels.

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7. Congo (Brazzaville): We continue to see signs that the Chinese Communists are trying to entrench themselves with the Brazzaville regime.

Last week, President Massamba-Debat said he will visit China later this month. This would be his first formal trip outside Africa since he took over last year. Military leaders in his government are already there.

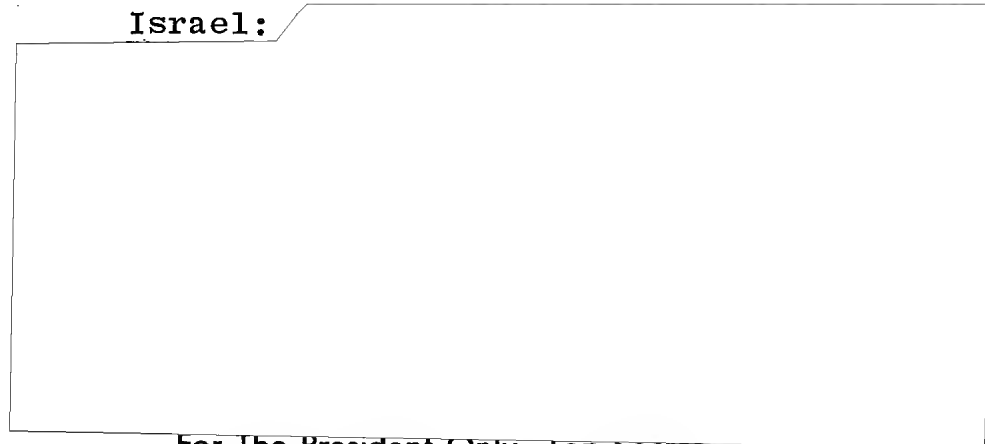
8. Kenya - Communist China: The Chinese Communists' propaganda activities have gotten them into trouble in Kenya.



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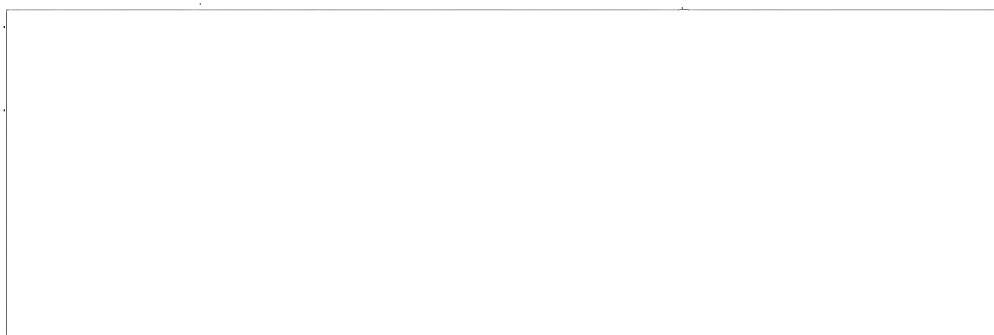
The Nairobi press has taken its cue and has loosed a flood of criticism of Chinese Communist activities throughout Africa.

9. Israel:



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10. UK - Israel.



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11. France - South America: De Gaulle starts his South American tour this Sunday.

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Any aid offers De Gaulle may make to his host countries during the trip are likely to be limited to technical assistance. However, he may well talk to the Colombians about an interoceanic, sea-level canal.

We think a French offer to help on a new canal would be--at this stage, at least--largely a propaganda gesture. Only preliminary steps have been taken toward determining the feasibility of such an undertaking.

12. France - USSR

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13. Cuba - UK: London has announced that Cubana airlines will commence daily service between Havana and Nassau on Monday.

The British say they are bound to grant Cuba landing rights in the Bahamas under the terms of a 1948 treaty. They promise, however, to keep a close watch over the passengers in transit.

14. Venezuela: The predicted new Communist campaign of violence may be under way.

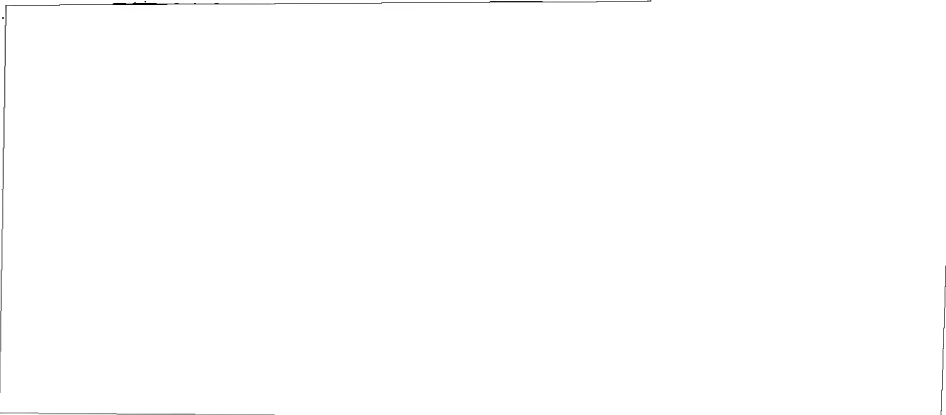
There have been disturbances in Caracas for the first time in months, and on Tuesday a Caracas firm was robbed of police uniforms.



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We do not expect that the campaign this fall will reach the level of last year's, however, and doubt that it will get out of hand.

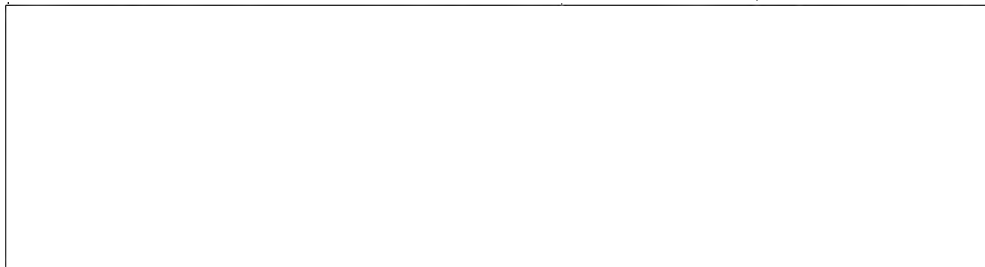
15. UAR - Saudi Arabia - Yemen




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16. USSR: Soviet naval and air forces are engaged in extensive defensive exercises against the current NATO maneuvers in the Norwegian Sea. 

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17. Denmark: Elections are coming up in less than a week, but public interest is lukewarm at best.

A good measure of this interest is illustrated by a story told by one of the leading candidates. While out campaigning, he asked a streetcar conductor who he thought would win the election. The conductor responded: "Johnson!"